## **Natural Resources Conservation Service**

# **Application Ranking Summary**

# Colorado River WS - All Lands/Wildlife

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Colorado River WS - All Lands/Wildlife		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

## **National Priorities Addressed**

Issue Questions	
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Quality – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
1. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a water body?	
1. b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated impaired water body?	
1. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes O or No O
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
2. c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes O or No O
2. b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and result in estimated water savings of at least 5% and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	Yes O or No O
2. a. Increase groundwater recharge in identified groundwater depletion areas (http://water.usgs.gov/ogw/rasa/html/TOC.html)?	Yes O or No O
Clean Air: Treatment of Air Quality from Agricultural Sources – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
3. c. Increase carbon sequestration?	Yes O or No O
3. b. Reduce green house gases such as methane, nitrous oxide, and volatile organic compounds (VOC)?	Yes O or No O
3. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	
High Quality, Productive Soils Erosion Reduction – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
4. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes O or No O
Healthy Plant and Animal Communities Wildlife Habitat Conservation – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
5. b. Retain wildlife and plant benefits on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	Yes O or No O
5. a. Benefit threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as identified in a State wildlife plan?	Yes O or No O
High Quality, Productive Soils, Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Special Environmental Efforts/Initiatives – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
6. e. Implement precision agricultural methods?	Yes O or No O
6. d. Implement an Integrated Pest Management plan?	
6. c. Properly dispose of animal carcasses?	
6. b. Increase, improve or establish pollinator habitat?	Yes O or No O
6. a. Eradicate or control noxious or invasive species?	
Strategic Initiative – Energy Conservation and Sustainable Production Energy Conservation – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
7. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	Yes O or No O

Business Lines – Conservation Implementation Additional Ranking Considerations - Will the proposed project result in:	
8. b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted, or will complete an existing conservation system?	
8. a. Implementation of all planned conservation practices within three years of contract obligation?	
Does the applicant meet the following conditions:	
9. c. Is this the applicant's first EQIP application?	Yes O or No O
9. b. Did the applicant successfully complete any past contract(s) in full compliance?	Yes O or No O
9. a. If the applicant has an existing EQIP contract, has it been, and is it now, on schedule and in full compliance?	Yes O or No O

#### **State Issues Addressed**

Issue Questions	
1. Will the project reduce the amount of nutrients/pesticides/salt/selenium or other pollutants entering ground or surface waters?	
2. Will the planned practice(s) promote water conservation on the contracted acres?	
3. Does the project increase the diversity of desirable plants on grazing lands?	
4. Does the project improve the health of riparian and/or wetland areas?	
5. Is the proposed project located within the State NRCS wildlife priority area, and do the planned practices address the habitat needs of the targeted species designated in the wildlife priority area?	Yes O or No O
6. Will the planned practice(s) reduce irrigation induced or streambank erosion?	Yes O or No O
7. Has any portion of the offered acreage been set aside or inventoried by a Cultural Resources Specialist or an Archeologist?	Yes O or No O
8. Does the proposed project support organic transition (farming operation to be used while transitioning from conventional to organic production)?	

## **Local Issues Addressed**

Issue Questions	
1. Is the primary purpose of the project to maintain, enhance, or restore sagebrush-steppe, riparian, mountain shrub, or coldwater stream habitat?	
2. Is the primary purpose of the project to maintain, enhance, or restore wetland, pasture and hayland, warmwater stream or pond habitat?	
3. Is the primary purpose of the project to maintain, enhance, or restore pinyon-juniper, deciduous-coniferous woodland, or cropland habitat?	
4. Is the primary purpose of the project to improve habitat for a wildlife species that is currently catagorized as a State species of concern, State candidate species, or Federal candidate species?	
5. Is the primary purpose of the project to improve habitat for a wildlife species that is currently catagorized as a Federal threatened species, Federal Endangered species, State threatened species, or State Endangered species?	Yes O or No O
6. Is the primary purpose of the project to improve habitat for one of the following species: pheasant; Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep; desert bighorn sheep; pronghorn; elk, mule deer; trout; mountain white fish; or turkey.	
7. Do the proposed practices address the most limiting factor on the property for the targeted specie? (document with species or habitat model)	
8. Are there at least 3 partners (not including the participant or NRCS) contributing dollars for the project?	
9. Are there only 2 partners (not including the participant or NRCS) contributing dollars for the project?	
10. Is there only 1 partner (not including the participant or NRCS) contributing dollars for the project?	
11. Do the planned practices establish and maintain native vegetation?	
12. Will the participant implement an Integrated Pest Management Plan on the contracted acres to address prevention and/or treatment of noxious weeds?	
13. Will implementation of the project result in a minimum increase in the Wildlife Habitat Index of .5 points for the targeted species? (To calculate index use species models in biology tech note #40 or, if a model is not available for the targeted species use the Colorado Wildlife Evaluation Guide).	

14. Will implementation of the project result in an increase in the Wildlife Habitat Index of between .3 and .49 points for the targeted species? (To calculate index use species models in biology tech note #40 or, if a model is not available for the targeted species use the Colorado Wildlife Evaluation Guide).	Yes O or No O
15. Will implementation of the project result in an increase in the Wildlife Habitat Index of between .1 and .29 points for the targeted species? (To calculate index use species models in biology tech note #40 or, if a model is not available for the targeted species use the Colorado Wildlife Evaluation	Yes O or No O
16. Does the proposal address energy conservation with the application of a Conservation Power Plant (practice code 716)?	Yes O or No O

#### **Land Use:**

Resource Concerns	Practices
Ranking Score	
Efficiency:	
Local Issues:	
State Issues:	
National Issues:	
Final Ranking Score:	

This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

	Application Signature Not Required for Contract Development unless required by State policy:
Signature Date:	Signature Date: